

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Denise C. Tears et al. Docket No.: 16,870A
Serial No.: 10/080,888 Group No.: 3761
Confirmation No.: 9388 Examiner: Unknown
Filed: February 22, 2002 Date: October 1, 2002
For: AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE FOR ABSORBING BODY FLUIDS

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**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent application to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/080,776 filed February 22, 2002, by Denise C. Tears, et al. for "METHOD OF SECURING AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE TO A PRIMARY ABSORBENT."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/081,852 filed February 22, 2002 by Denise C. Tears, et al. for "AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING A PAIR OF FRINGES."

This application is not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449; however, a copy of this application is provided herewith.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-2455.

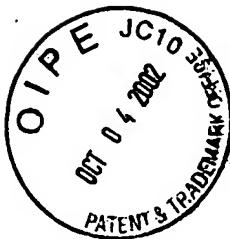
Respectfully submitted,

DENISE C. TEARS ET AL.

By: Thomas J. Connelly

Thomas J. Connelly

Registration No.: 28,404



List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant(s): Denise C. Tears et al. Docket No.: 16,870A
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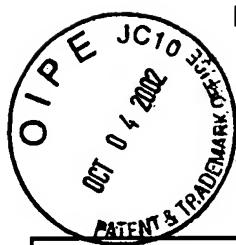
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initial		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclas	Filing
	A1	H1746	08/1998	Carrier et al.			
	A2	2,064,431	12/1934	Jurgensen			
	A3	2,787,271	04/1957	Clark			
	A4	3,395,201	07/1968	Kalwaites			
	A5	3,411,504	11/1968	Glassman			
	A6	3,559,650	02/1971	Larson			
	A7	3,575,174	04/1971	Mogor			
	A8	3,886,941	06/1975	Duane et al.			
	A9	3,888,255	06/1975	Shah et al.			
	A10	4,059,114	11/1977	Richards			
	A11	4,204,532	05/1980	Lind et al.			
	A12	4,324,245	04/1982	Mesek et al.			
	A13	4,589,876	05/1986	Van Tilburg			
	A14	4,627,847	12/1986	Puletti et al.			
	A15	4,655,759	04/1987	Romans-Hess et al.			
	A16	4,690,680	09/1987	Higgins			
	A17	4,692,161	09/1987	Puletti et al.			
	A18	4,718,898	01/1988	Puletti et al.			
	A19	4,770,657	09/1988	Ellis et al.			
	A20	4,773,904	09/1988	Nakanishi et al.			
	A21	4,834,739	05/1989	Linker, III et al.			
	A22	4,911,701	03/1990	Mavinkurve			
	A23	4,938,756	07/1990	Salek			
	A24	5,011,480	04/1991	Gossens et al.			
	A25	5,197,959	03/1993	Buell			
	A26	5,234,422	08/1993	Sneller et al.			
	A27	5,236,428	08/1993	Zajaczkowski			
	A28	5,300,058	04/1994	Goulait et al.			
	A29	5,312,386	05/1994	Correa et al.			
	A30	5,391,162	02/1995	Widlund et al.			

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with your next communication.

Examiner:

Date Considered:


List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initial		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclas	Filing
	A31	5,401,266	03/1995	Runeman et al.			
	A32	5,454,804	10/1995	Widlund			
	A33	5,624,423	04/1997	Anjur et al.			
	A34	5,649,917	07/1997	Roberts et al.			
	A35	5,778,457	07/1998	Conway			
	A36	5,795,344	08/1998	Chappell			
	A37	5,820,618	10/1998	Roberts et al.			
	A38	5,843,056	12/1998	Good et al.			
	A39	5,879,341	03/1999	Odorzynski et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents							Trans.	
Initial		Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclas	Ye	No
	A1	EP 0 464 854 B1	08/1991	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A2	EP 0 687 453 A1	12/1995	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A3						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A4						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A5						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	A7						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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